



## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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Contact: Kasey Bensinger  
Phone: 919/733-5612

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### **EASLEY APPOINTS EIGHT TO URBAN TRANSPORTATION NEEDS STUDY COMMISSION**

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed **Mark C. Cramer** of Charlotte, **Sanford T. Cross** of Raleigh, **Charles E. Knox Jr.** of Cornelius, **Dale McKeel** of Durham, **Brent McKinney** of Greensboro, **Aaron W. Plyler** of Monroe, **Wayne Troutman** of Concord and **Stephen P. Zelnak Jr.** of Raleigh to the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Solutions to North Carolina's Urban Transportation Needs.

Cramer is an attorney in private practice concentrating on government relations, infrastructure development, land use and corporate matters. He serves as executive director of the Real Estate and Building Industry Coalition and as vice president and counsel of the Institute for Defense and Business at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Cramer received his bachelor's degree from UNC Chapel Hill and his juris doctorate from the University of Virginia.

Cross is a public transportation consultant. From 1981 until 2002, he worked for the Public Transportation Division of the N.C. Department of Transportation, most-recently serving as their director. Cross received his bachelor's and master's degrees from East Carolina University.

Knox is the president and a founding principal of The Knox Group Inc., a real estate development and brokerage firm. He currently serves on the Highway 73 steering committee, Charlotte Chamber of Commerce and the Charlotte Region Commercial Board of Realtors. Knox received his bachelor's degree from Davidson College.

McKeel is a transportation planner for the town of Carrboro. Previously, he was the executive director of Scenic North Carolina Inc., a statewide conservation organization. McKeel serves on the board of directors for Scenic America and is a past member of the transportation enhancements committee for the N.C. Department of Transportation. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from UNC Chapel Hill.

McKinney is the executive director of the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation. Previously, he worked for the city of Winston-Salem as a city traffic engineer and later as the director of transportation. McKinney is past president of the southern district of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and is currently serving on three international transportation committees. He received his bachelor's degree from N.C. State University and his master's from Purdue University.